

REMARKS

The Office Action, dated June 2, 2008, has been carefully considered and applicant respectfully requests that reconsideration of the instant application be given in view of the amendments made to the claims and for the remarks made, herein.

Claims 1-12 and 15-16 are pending and stand rejected. Claims 1 and 15 are independent claims.

Claims 9-12 are objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 13 and 14 had been withdrawn from further consideration by amendment dated April 16, 2008. Claims 1-8 and 10-15 have been amended. Claim 9 has been cancelled.

The Office Action objects to the drawings in that Figure 4 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his observation and has submitted, herewith, a Replacement Sheet including Figures 3 and 4, annotated as Replacement Sheet, to include the legend --Prior Art-- with regard to Figure 4. No new matter has been added.

For the submission of the Replacement sheet containing Figures 3 and 4, applicant submits that the reason for the objection has been overcome.

The Office Action objects to claims 9-12 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in dependent claims 9-12 and has elected to amend claim 1 to include the subject matter of claim 9, which depends directly from claim 9. Claims 10-12, which depend from claim 9, have been amended to depend from claim 1.

In addition, independent claim 15 has been amended in a better form. More specifically, claim 15 has been amended to include the claim elements of amended claim 1.

For the amendments made to claim 15, which are similar in scope to the amendments made in claim 1, applicant submits that independent claim 15 is also in allowable form.

Applicant submits that for the amendment made to claim 1, which is in conformance with the indication of allowable subject matter, and to claim 15, which is comparable to the amendments made to claim 1, independent claims 1 and 15, are in an allowable form.

In accepting the indication of allowable subject matter, applicant makes no statement regarding the patentability of the subject matter of originally filed claims 1-16 and expressly reserves the right to re-prosecute the originally filed claims in one or more continuation patent applications pursuant to 35 USC 120.

With regard to the rejection of the claims 2-8 and 10-14 under 35 USC §102, these claims depend from claim 1. Lee (WO 00/10179), fails to disclose the claim element "a second circuit element having a predetermined capacitance value and being arranged to provide a capacitive connection between the first contact pad and the second contact pad," as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, claims 2-8 and 10-14 are also in allowable form as these claims inherent the subject matter of claim 1, which has been shown not to be included in the teachings of Lee.

For at least this reason, applicant submits that the rejection of the aforementioned claims has been overcome and respectfully requests that the claims be allowed.

With regard to the rejection of claim 16 under §103, this claim depends from claim 15, which has been amended to include the subject matter recited in amended claim 1. Lee fails to disclose the claim element "a second circuit element having a predetermined capacitance value and being arranged to provide a capacitive connection between the first contact pad and the second contact pad," as recited in claim 1.

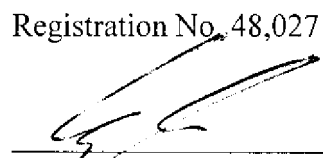
Accordingly, claim 16 is also in allowable form as this claim inherent the subject matter of claim 15, which has been shown not to be included in the teachings of Lee.

For at least this reason, applicant submits that the rejection of the aforementioned claim has been overcome and respectfully requests that the claim be allowed.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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